

[English]

Train between Kanyakumari to New Delhi

2135. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a direct train between Kanyakumari to New Delhi via Madurai;

(b) if so, the proposed date of its introduction and details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to operational and resource constraints.

Paradeep Phosphates Limited

2136. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Paradeep Phosphates Limited could not utilise its 50% production capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has sanctioned financial assistance to modernise this unit for increasing its production capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). The capacity utilisation of Paradeep Phosphate Limited (PPL) for the last five years is given below :

Year	%age capacity utilisation
1991-92	89.1
1992-93	72.7
1993-94	53.5
1994-95	97.9
1995-96	85.2

After decontrol of phosphatic fertilizer in August, 1992, the prices of phosphatic fertilizers in the open market went up sharply, leading to decline in consumption, and ultimately their production. Hence, the capacity utilisation went down in 1993-94, but improved in the subsequent years.

(c) and (d). The details of the financial assistance provided by the Government to PPL through budgetary support in the form of plan-loan, to enable the company to meet its capital requirement of funds for carrying out

renewals/replacement in the plant, during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (BE) are given below :

Year	(Rs. in crores)
1994-95	6.00
1995-96	16.00
1996-97 (BE)	16.00

Fly-Overs at Siliguri

2137. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the people of Siliguri have demanded the construction of two railway fly-overs in and around the city; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Representations have been received from representatives of people for construction of Road Over Bridges at Mahabirathan near Siliguri Town and at Siliguri Junction. However, State Government has not been able to finalise the alignment of Road Over bridge at Siliguri Town on account of difficulty of removal of encroachments and land acquisition for the construction of approaches. No proposal has been made by State Government for Road Over Bridge at Siliguri Junction.

New Railway Line from Nalgonda to Macherla

2138. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh had proposed to the Union Government for laying of new Railway line from Nalgonda to Macherla via Nagarjuna Sagar;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have considered the proposal;

(c) if so, the time by which the final approval would be given by the Government in the matter; and

(d) if not, the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). It has not been found possible to consider construction of this line at this stage, due to acute constraint of resources.

Mobilisation of Funds by Railways

2139. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of capital mobilised by the Railways